

tagious as well as disease. Don't carry the whole world on your shoulders, far less the universe. Trust the Eternal. Never despair! "Lost hope is a fatal disease."—*Chicago Medical Times*.

A TRUE STORY

One beautiful day in June I was sitting in the front yard of my home enjoying the shade and looking at a bed of lovely pinks, one of my favorite flowers, when some three or four small boys, from eight to twelve years of age, came up the clover and called to my little boy, who is nine years old and a member of the Juniors. The boys said to him it was time to go for the cows.

Russell came around the house and said, "Mamma, I am going with George after my cows. I will go in the big field and get your cows first, then I will go out to the ridge and get my other two cows." He always told me where he was going. "Good-by, mamma" and away he went.

I arose and went to the gate to see if the other boys had waited for him, but they were nearly at the top of the hill, playing among themselves and calling to Russell to hurry up.

I did not hear anything more of them for an hour or so, when presently looking up I saw Russell sitting on the front door-step crying as though his heart would break.

"What is the matter?" I asked.

"George hit me," he answered, and as he spoke he stuck his foot out toward me. There were two welts as thick as my finger on his bare leg with the blood oozing out of them.

"Did you do anything to him?" I asked.

"No, ma'am," he replied. "George said if I would swear he would not hit me, and if I would not swear he would give me five licks with his whip."

And on pushing up his clothing I found three more welts.

"Mamma, it hurts so bad," and then looking at his leg and up into my face with the tears streaming down his own face, he said, "Mamma, is that bearing the cross for Jesus?"

And upon my telling him it was nobly bearing the cross, he dried his tears, and I never saw so happy a face as his was.—*Our Morning Guide*.

LITTLE SALLIE'S ANIMAL STORY

"Do you know any stories?" was the first thing Jimmy said to his little cousin visitor.

"I do," said Sally smiling. "What kind do you like best?"

"All the kinds," said Jimmy promptly. "Do you know any about animals?"

"I do," said Sally. "I know a first-rate one about my own cat."

"Tell me now," said Jimmy.

Jimmy came around in front where he could "see every word."

"Begin!" said he,

"I am beginning," said Sally. "My cat is just as old as I am. We were kittens together, Mamma says she used to rock us in the cradle. One of the first things I remember, Jimmy, is my cat. She is a very big gray cat, with a ringed coon tail."

"Got a name?" asked Jimmy.

"She has—Big Betsy. Big Betsy goes to the country in the summer. Mamma wouldn't think of leaving her behind to look out for herself. And we think, Jimmy, that Big Betsy always knows on what day we shall start. We think, Jimmy, that she understands a great many words that we say.

"Last summer she had a very smart kitten, a great pet with us all; and we think Big Betsy understood us when we said we did not think the kitten could not be taken too. The morning we were to start mamma went up-stairs. There, in one of the trunks lay Big Betsy's kitten, and there Big Betsy stood packing her as nicely as possible, standing up on her back feet and tucking her in with her paws. Did you ever hear of such a thing Jimmy?"

"No," said Jimmy, "I didn't. Did the kitten go?"

"She did," said Sally.

"In the trunk? Oh, I hope she did! Please, Cousin Sally, please say she did!" entreated Jimmy.

"She'd have smothered, Jimmy, all locked in where she couldn't get any fresh air to breathe. She and Big Betsy went in a basket, and had part of my seat. This is the end, Jimmy."

"It's a very nice animal story," said Jimmy.—*Babyland*.

Our Young People

OUR SINS AND HOW TO GET RID OF THEM

Luke 13: 23-30

Topic Dec. 19

It seems almost unnecessary to discuss in this land of Bibles how to get rid of sin. Who has not heard of the only way? Yet a few scriptures will help us in leading souls from sin to Christ.

FOR THE SINNER

1. God is pure, Isa. 6: 3, and heaven is pure, Ps. 20: 6; Rev. 21: 2.
2. Therefore nothing shall enter that defiles, Rev. 21: 27; Rev. 20: 6; Heb. 12: 14.
3. Therefore the sin-stained soul is excluded, Rev. 22: 11; Rom. 6: 23; Ezek. 18: 4.
4. But *all* have sinned, Rom. 3: 23, therefore of ourselves we are all dead in sin, Col 2: 13; John 8: 21.
5. But love provided a substitute, John 3: 16; James 3: 18.
6. To accept him implies faith, Heb. 11: 6, repentance, Acts 17: 30, confession, Rom. 10: 8, 9, and obedience, John 14: 22, 23.

FOR THE CHRISTIAN—How to keep rid of sin

1. But the Christian is supposed to have obeyed all this and therefore be free from sin. Rom. 6: 2; Col. 2: 13; I Cor. 3: 17; Heb. 3: 1; I Pet. 2: 24.
2. However the Christian is not freed from temptation. Who will doubt, James 3: 3, R. V. or say that Rom. 7: 14-24, is not a common experience or discredit, I John 1: 8, or Gal. 5: 17. Herein they boast

falsely and bring reproach on a blessed doctrine who say, "I cannot sin." We are tempted by self, Rom. 7: 22, 23, by others, II Tim. 3: 13 and by satan, I Pet. 5: 8.

3. Yet victory over temptation is possible. Mark in your Bibles and rejoice in these promises. Matt. 1: 21; I Cor. 10: 13; Gal. 5: 16; I Cor. 9: 27; Rom. 8: 2; Rom. 7: 24, 25. There are many others. Search them out. Let no one reject the Bible doctrine of victory over sin because of ignorant, self-righteous boasting on the part of others. Alas, how low the standard of consecration is held because people are unwilling to be taught how to hold it higher!

4. *Helps to Victory*.—A single eye, Matt. 6: 22, a surrendered heart, John 5: 30, a constant abiding, John 15, kept by faith, Heb. 10: 28 and 12: 2.

Such a life is not one of stumbling and constant shame facedness, but one of joy and peace, Rom. 8: 6, such as will convince the world of its reality. Acts 4: 13. We have been too much afraid to claim assurance and victory over sin. It is ours; let us rejoice in it yet with humility withal watching lest we stumble and bring reproach upon it. I Cor. 10: 12; I Cor. 4: 4. R. V.

To the leader:—There are so many references on this topic that questions are omitted. Some one ought to talk on each heading so that the point will be clear. Better get a few of the references well than hurry thro a lot of them. Have the lesson thoroughly in your own possession so that you can guide the meeting and leave the conviction of the main thought of victory over sin thro Christ vivid before all.

C. F. YODER.

WHEN YOU LEAD

To every Endeavorer comes at some time the important task of leading a prayer meeting. This responsibility should not be undertaken thoughtlessly, nor yet should it be shirked, advises "The Presbyterian Manual." As soon as you are assigned to a meeting, at once look up the Scripture of the topic, that it may be in your mind for meditation as you go about your daily duties. Direct your reading somewhat into the line of the theme of the meeting. Mark and lay aside apt quotations and incidents. Thus by full preparation, preparation that of course, should include much prayer, and master the subject of your service.

Not all of the material that you have acquired is to be used, by any means. From the richness of your supply select the most essential portion for your very brief remarks. If there are special points to be developed, share your material privately with some of the members. By judicious prearrangement of this sort you will see that the most important phases of the topic are touched upon in the meeting, and also that the exercises do not suffer from lack of prayer and song. Plan to have one or two hymns started without announcement or instrument.

Collect a few of the most spiritual minded members to meet with you for a short special prayer service, just before the meeting. Thus these members will be attuned to the service and you will secure the blessings that prayer alone can bring. Begin promptly. Remember that it is not always necessary, nor even wise, to open a meeting with a song service. From the outset bear in mind the truth that you are not to be the meeting; you are simply to lead it, and your